

~~RECORDED TELEGRAM~~

Department of State

48

Action

S/S

Info

FROM: BONN

TO: Secretary of State

NO: 730, OCTOBER 13, 10 P.M.

~~SECRET~~

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PRIORITY

PRESIDENTIAL HANDLING

FOLLOWING TEXT MESSAGE FROM CHANCELLOR TO PRESIDENT RECEIVED  
BY EMBASSY OCTOBER 13. 6:45 P.M. LOCAL TIME:

QUOTE

HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF  
AMERICA, MR. DWIGHT D. EISENHOWER, THE WHITE HOUSE, WASHINGTON,  
D.C.

BONN, OCTOBER 13, 1959

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:

I HAVE READ WITH CLOSE ATTENTION, AND I HAVE REFLECTED UPON  
YOUR LETTER OF OCTOBER 9, FOR WHICH I THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

AS I SAID ALREADY IN MY LETTER TO YOU OF OCTOBER 7, I, TOO,  
CONSIDER THE VISIT OF MR. KHRUSHCHEV IN THE UNITED STATES A  
SUCCESS. IT IS NOT VERY GREAT ONE, BUT I BELIEVE ONE COULD  
NOT EXPECT TOO MUCH AT THE BEGINNING. THE RESULT LIKEWISE  
JUSTIFIES YOUR CONSIDERATIONS IN FAVOR OF A SUMMIT CONFERENCE.  
THEN, HOWEVER, IT CERTAINLY WILL BE NECESSARY THAT WE ON THE  
WESTERN SIDE START WITH THE PREPARATIONS IN GOOD TIME;  
THEY WILL BE DIFFICULT AND TIME-CONSUMING.

YOU JUSTLY POINT OUT THAT THE WEST IN THESE NEGOTIATIONS  
MAY BE

~~SECRET~~

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-2- 730, OCTOBER 13, 10 P.M., FROM BONN

MAY BE EXPOSED TO A SEVERE PSYCHOLOGICAL AND PROPAGANDA PRESSURE. FOR THIS REASON WE MUST REMAIN PARTICULARLY VIGILANT PRECISELY DURING THIS PERIOD OF PREPARATION AND WE MUST, AS YOU RIGHTLY SAY, PREVENT A FALSE AND DANGEROUS FEELING OF EUPHORIA AND SECURITY FROM ARISING IN OUR RESPECTIVE COUNTRIES. WE CAN MEET THIS DANGER IN NO OTHER WAY AND NOT BETTER THAN BY A COMPREHENSIVE AGREEMENT ON THE POSSIBILITIES OF A SUMMIT MEETING AND THUS ALSO ON THE LIMITS BEYOND WHICH WE MAY NOT GO.

I HAVE NO OBJECTIONS TO YOUR PROPOSAL TO SCHEDULE THE SUMMIT CONFERENCE FOR THE BEGINNING OF DECEMBER, PROVIDED THAT WE USE THE RELATIVELY SHORT PERIOD OF TIME FOR A CAREFUL PREPARATION OF THE CONFERENCE. I SHARE YOUR VIEW THAT WE SHOULD MEET IN ADVANCE WITH OUR BRITISH AND FRENCH COLLEAGUES, AND I MOST GLADLY ACCEPT YOUR PROPOSAL TO COME TO WASHINGTON. BY WAY OF PRECAUTION IT MIGHT BE NECESSARY TO LEAVE SUFFICIENT TIME BETWEEN THIS MEETING AND THE SUMMIT CONFERENCE. AT THE WEST CONFERENCE THE FIRST ITEM TO BE DISCUSSED WILL BE THE AGENDA. IT IS NOT ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN WHETHER AGREEMENT WILL BE REACHED IMMEDIATELY. IN MY VIEW ONE SHOULD CONSIDER WHETHER THE PRINCIPAL POINT OF THE AGENDA SHOULD BE THE QUESTION OF DISARMAMENT. THIS QUESTION IS AND REMAINS, AS ONE KNOWS, THE DECISIVE QUESTION, DECISIVE ALSO FOR ALL OTHER QUESTIONS. THE SETTLEMENT OF NO OTHER QUESTION WILL BRING ABOUT A GENERAL RELAXATION OF TENSION. THE GENERAL RELAXATION OF TENSION CAN COME ONLY IF REAL PROGRESS IS MADE IN THE FIELD OF DISARMAMENT. ON REACHING REAL PROGRESS IN THIS FIELD ONE MIGHT SEE THE NECESSARY PROOF THAT THE SOVIET UNION IS SERIOUS ABOUT THE REMOVAL OF THE TENSION WHICH BURDENS THE WORLD, AND OF THE PRESSURE OF ARMAMENT.

YOU, DEAR MR. PRESIDENT, ON APRIL 16, 1953, IN WASHINGTON AT A BANQUET BEFORE THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF NEWSPAPER EDITORS, IN A GREAT SPEECH MADE A PEACE PROPOSAL TO THE SOVIET UNION. IN THIS SPEECH YOU SAID AMONG OTHER THINGS THE FOLLOWING: (HERE FOLLOWS A QUOTATION FROM THE SPEECH BEGINNING AT THE WORDS 'WE ARE PREPARED TO REAFFIRM' AND ENDING AT THE WORDS 'EFFECTIVELY GUARD THE PEACE AND SECURITY OF ALL PEOPLES').

I WAS

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-3- 730, OCTOBER 13, 10 P.M., FROM BONN

I WAS PARTICULARLY DEEPLY TOUCHED BY YOUR PROPOSAL AT THAT TIME. I BEG YOU TO CONSIDER WHETHER IT MIGHT NOT BE RECOMMENDABLE TO CONNECT THE PROPAGATION OF A GENERAL CONTROLLED DISARMAMENT AGAIN WITH THOUGHTS AND PLANS SUCH AS YOU EXPRESSED IN THE YEAR 1953. I BELIEVE THAT THEREBY THE ECHO OF THE DISARMAMENT PROPOSAL WOULD BE GREATLY STRENGTHENED AND BROADENED IN THE WHOLE WORLD.

THANK YOU, MR. PRESIDENT, VERY KINDLY FOR THE FRIENDLY FEELINGS WHICH YOU EXPRESSED IN YOUR LETTER OF OCTOBER 9, AND I AM, AS ALWAYS,

YOURS, VERY SINCERELY,

(SIGNED) ADENAUER

UNQUOTE

BRUCE

SMD/20

~~SECRET~~

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